The following measures have been taken to prevent the diversion/ black marketing of domestic LPG cylinders for commercial purposes.

(i) Under the LPG (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000 promulgated under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 the diversion/black marketing of domestic LPG cylinders for commercial purposes by the distributors OMCs is prohibited. The State Governments are empowered to take action against erring distributor under the provisions of this Order. The State Governments have been alerted from time to time to take steps against the diversion of domestic cylinders for unauthorized usage.

(ii) The officials of OMCs carry out random checks at distributors godown, delivery point, as well as en-route to ensure that no diversion/black marketing takes place. As per the MDG, in case of establishment of any diversion/black marketing of domestic LPG cylinder for commercial purposes, the following action is taken against the distributor:—

(1) Fine of Rs. 20,000 plus the price of LPG diverted at commercial rates for 1st offence.

(2) Fine of Rs. 50,000 plus the price of LPG diverted at commercial rates for 2nd offence, and

(3) Termination of the distributorship for 3rd offence.

The proposed different colour scheme for domestic and commercial cylinders is likely to help in controlling the diversion of domestic LPG for unauthorized use.

New Agencies in Madhya Pradesh

t1593. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the places where new agencies for petrol pumps, kerosene and LPG in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have been allotted during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the date of allocation of these agencies alongwith the names of beneficiaries;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the date of advertisement for the same; and

(d) the reasons for not allocating the agencies for any of the three in a district despite giving advertisement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The number of Retail Outlets/SKO dealerships and LPG distributors opened by public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during the last three years is given in the statement (see below).

(b) and (c) The details are available with the Directors (Marketing) of the OMCs concerned.

(d) There may be various reasons for not allocating any RO/SKO dealerships/LPG distributorships in some of the districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh despite advertisements, viz. non receipt of the applications, suitable candidate not found, cancellation of selection on enquiry of complaints against the selection process, Court cases, etc.

Statement .

Number of Retail Outlets (RO)/SKO dealerships and LPG distributorships opened by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during the last three years

Name of OMC	State	Year	RO dealership	SKO dealership	LPG distributor-ship	Total
IBP	Chhattisgarh	2003-04	1	0	0	1
		2004-05	6	0	0	6
		2005-06	9	0	0	9
	Madhya Pradesh	2003-04	4	0	0	4
		2004-05	4	0	0	4
		2005-06	6	0	0	6
IOCL	Chhattisgarh	2003-04	17	1	0	18
		2004-05	26	1	0	27
		2005-06	21	0	0	21

Name of OMC	State	Year	RO dealership	SKO dealership	LPG distributor-ship	Total
	Madhya Pradesh	2003-04	21	3	0	24
		2004-05	64	21	0	85
		2005-06	113	6	0	119
	Chhattisgarh	2003-04	2	0	12	14
		2004-05	40	0	2	42
HPCL		2005-06	40	0	1	41
	Madhya Pradesh	2003-04	43	0	21	64
		2004-05	65	3	23	91
		2005-06	75	0	5	80
	Chhattisgarh	2003-04	4	0	5	9
		2004-05	17	0	1	18
BPCL		2005-06	68	0	0	68
	Madhya Pradesh	2003-04	2	0	15	17
		2004-05	84	0	5	89
		2005-06	206	3	0	209

Gas Exploration in K.G. Basin

1594. SHRl TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that message has been sent for stop gassing to NIKO resources in the KG basin block for not informing about the more discoveries at the reserves of D6 blocks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERTROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHAJ. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.